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10/780,184	02/17/2004	Hirofumi Matsuda	P1339US	9867

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CASELLA & HESPOS
274 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10016

EXAMINER

SMITH MAYES, ERICA L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2609

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	02/02/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/780,184

Applicant(s)

MATSUDA ET AL.

Examiner

Erica Mayes

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2 and 3 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 17 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5/21/2004.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 2 and 3 are objected to because of the following informalities: The words "network-connected" should be changed to "network connected". The word "towards" is clearly assumed to be "forwards". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Reifman et al. (US 005917615 A).

Regarding claim 1, Reifman et al. discloses a facsimile apparatus ("intelligence facsimile machine (IFAX)", column 8, line 16), comprising:

a transmitting/receiving unit (Figure 1, Fax Modem 42 and at column 8, line 65) to transmit and receive a facsimile data via an external communication line (Figure 1, local area network interface 30 or telephone line 44)

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an output unit (Figure 1, Print Engine 38, and "print engine 38 to print documents received from another IFAX of the same construction or prior art FAX machines. The print engine 38 may be a thermal print engine as is common in prior art FAX machines or a laser print engine. Alternatively, the IFAX 10 may be coupled to an external printer such as a laser printer." at column 8, lines 53-58) to output the facsimile data received by the transmitting/receiving unit,

a display(" Figure 1, Display 20, "which utilizes a touch-sensitive screen 22. The touch-sensitive screen 22 overlays the display 20 in a well-known manner to form a touch-sensitive display 24. A selection is entered on the touch-sensitive display 24 by pressing on a predetermined position of the touch-sensitive display", column 8, lines 22-28) to display the facsimile data received by the transmitting/receiving unit, ("The user may view any of the received facsimile messages, selecting the desired message by touching one of the facsimile messages listed on the touch-sensitive display 24 and pressing a "View" button 214. ",column 24, lines 32-36 and Figure 10, Display Recipients List 140)

a forwarding unit(Figure 23, Forward 222, which is illustrated by the combination of the touch-sensitive screen 22 and the display 20 which is shown in Figure 1) to forward the facsimile data displayed on the display to another equipment, (" the user may specify the handling of incoming faxes by pressing the Handling of Incoming Faxes display location 278 and the Change button 172, causing the IFAX 10 to change the screen display shown in FIG. 40 which displays the various routing options for incoming facsimile messages. The user may ...specify that incoming facsimile messages be

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forwarded to a personal computer by pressing a "Forwarded to PC" button 304", at column 28, lines 53-63)

an instruction receiving unit (Figure 23, Mailbox) to receive an instruction output or forward the facsimile data displayed on the display by means of an external operation, ("The user may print any facsimile message, selecting the desired facsimile message by touching the facsimile message listed on the touch-sensitive display 24, and selecting a "Print" button 216.The user may also forward any facsimile message by selecting the desired facsimile message and pressing a "Forward" button 222", at column 24,lines 36-45)

a forwarding end presenting unit (Figure 5, Phonebook 62) to present the selection of a forwarding end to which the facsimile data displayed on the display is to be forwarded to an operator when the forwarding instruction is received by the instruction receiving unit,(Phonebook 62 at Figure 5 presents addresses to which faxes can be forwarded "select a facsimile recipient from the phonebook 62" , at column 25, line 54.)

a forwarding end receiving unit (Figure 5, Fax Number 88) to receive the forwarding end(i.e. address) given by an external operation (i.e. user press buttons) after the forwarding end is presented by the forwarding-end presenting unit, and ("the user may enter a fax number or name manually", at column 25, lines 53)

a control unit (Figure 1,CPU 12, wherein the Data bus 40 the User Interface element 18, modem 42 and Figure 2, Operational flowchart, is controlled) to cause the forwarding unit to forward the facsimile data displayed on the display to the received

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forwarding end if the forwarding-end receiving unit receives the forwarding end and to cause the output unit to output the facsimile data displayed on the display if the instruction receiving unit receives the output instruction. (Figure 23, Forward 222 and Print 216, The control unit controls the entire operation, causing outputting or forwarding depending on the user's selections.)

Regarding claim 2 Reifman et al. discloses the facsimile apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the forwarding unit transfers the facsimile data displayed on the display to a folder. (Figure 2, Inbox 70 and Outbox 72) in a computer network connected with the facsimile apparatus ("The user may select the outbox 72 (see FIG. 2) by pressing the Outbox button 212 shown in FIG. 23. Pressing the Outbox button 212 causes the IFAX 10 to switch to the menu shown in the screen display of FIG. 29. The prompt 48 instructs the user to select a mailbox activity associated with the outbox 72.

Alternatively, the user may return to the inbox 70 (see FIG. 2), and the menu of the screen display shown in FIG. 23, by pressing an "Inbox" button 252", at column 25, lines 57-64)

Regarding claim 3, Reifman et al. discloses the facsimile apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the forwarding unit forwards the facsimile data displayed on the display to a computer network (Figure 1, LAN 32) connected with the facsimile apparatus in order to enable the transmission in the form of an electronic mail (LAN interface 30).

Regarding claim 4, Reifman et al. discloses the facsimile apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the forwarding unit transmits the facsimile data displayed on the display from the transmitting/receiving unit via an external communication line to another facsimile apparatus. (" The IFAXs 10 may be coupled together on a local area network through the LAN interface 30 (see Fig.1), or other suitable interface connection.", at lines 43-45)

Regarding claim 5, Reifman et al. discloses the facsimile apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a storage unit (Figure 1, File Storage Unit 28) to save the facsimile data received by the transmitting/receiving unit, wherein the control unit(CPU) saves (In memory 14) the facsimile data displayed on the display in the storage unit if the instruction receiving unit receives a saving instruction. ("The user may save a facsimile message by selecting the desired facsimile message and pressing the "Save button 220" shown in FIG. 23. This causes the IFAX 10 to change to the screen display shown in FIG. 27. As seen in FIG. 27, the IFAX 10 displays a message on the touch-sensitive display 24 indicating that the selected facsimile message is being saved to disk", at column 25, lines 25-27)

Regarding claim 6, Reifman et al. discloses the facsimile apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a character data converting unit (" Figure 2, Tool Apps 78) to convert the facsimile data received by the transmitting/receiving unit into a character data, wherein the control unit causes the forwarding unit to forward the character data converted to the forwarding end received by the forwarding-end receiving unit. ("The

IFAX 10 can receive faxes from both Intelligent and G3 fax machines. Received messages can be printed, stored in mailboxes, forwarded to PC's connected via LAN or Serial or routed to a Tool Application for ... OCR", at column 45, lines 30-36)

Regarding claim 7, Reifman et al. discloses the facsimile apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising a forwarding end detector (Figure 4E, Error Message 1142) to detect whether or not the character data obtained by the conversion by the character-data converting unit includes a string indicating the forwarding end received by the forwarding end receiving unit ("Error Correction Mode (ECM) for highly accurate image and data transmission.", column 57, lines 7-8, ECM judges the errors and corrects the errors in a character string.), wherein the control unit causes the forwarding unit to forward the character data obtained by the conversion by the character data converting unit to the forwarding end detected by the forwarding end detector. ("Each binary attachment should be counted as a single page at the end of the document. The Fax Viewer and the Mailbox will allow users to transfer these binary attachments to their PC's using the Mailbox Feature Save to Floppy....The IFAX machine and EFA protocol will be designed to support the" sending and receiving" of documents that consist of multiple parts, each of which may contain different media types. Some messages will contain binary Attachments of different types. Other messages will contain Phonebook information, Custom Cover Sheets. Configuration Settings, etc. Some of these message types will be automatically recognized and acted on by the system while others will require" the user to extract elements" from each of these message types. ", at column 58, lines 59-65 and Column 59, lines 2-13)

Regarding claim 8, Reifman et al. discloses the facsimile apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the control unit causes the forwarding end detected (Figure 28) by the forwarding-end detector to be displayed on the display and causes the forwarding unit to forward the facsimile data displayed on the display to the forwarding end if the forwarding end displayed on the display is received by the forwarding-end receiving unit.(Figure 28, and "The user may forward a facsimile message to another FAX machine by selecting the desired facsimile message and pressing the Forward button 222 shown in FIG. 23. This causes the IFAX 10 to switch to the screen display shown in FIG. 28. As seen in FIG. 28, the IFAX 10 displays a message on the touch-sensitive display 24 indicating that the selected facsimile message is being enclosed", column 25, lines 37-43)

Conclusion

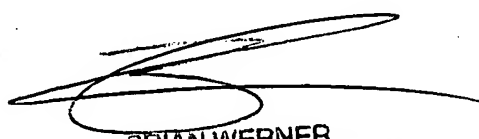
3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Shimoosawa US 6658456, Sekiya et al. US 4566127, Fujiwara US 2003/0107758, Yamamoto US 2002/0036797, Itezono US 4710951 and Adler US 5812818 and Noda US 2003/0128387.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Erica Mayes whose telephone number is (575) 270-1575. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:30am-5:00pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Werner can be reached on (571) 272-7401. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

EM
1/17/2007



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